



December 18, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: In the matter of Preserving the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

The senior community is concerned about the Federal Communications Commission's methodology in preserving an open Internet. I am a member of the Missouri Silver Haired Legislature, a leading advocate for the interests and rights of the aged community in our state. The FCC's actions relating to net neutrality could have a profound impact on our constituency's ability to access and adopt broadband internet, creating yet another barrier for us to overcome.

While we applaud your efforts to formulate a National Broadband Plan that takes into consideration all of the various constituencies, we feel that your actions regarding net neutrality are misplaced given the state of broadband access and affordability in the United States. While people in rural areas, inner cities, the elderly and those with disabilities suffer from low rates of broadband adoption, the FCC is looking to place onerous burdens on companies that are willing and able to invest in crucial broadband infrastructure.

Why not focus on lowering the barriers to adoption for the people in the United States who are not currently connected? This would seem to be a more productive use of the government's resources, plus the nation's elderly community would benefit from new applications like telemedicine and increased communication options, enabling those with limited mobility to consult with their physicians from the convenience of their own homes and keep in touch with the outside world.

I believe expanding broadband adoption to the elderly population should take precedence over net neutrality regulations that would like increase prices, decrease accessibility, and lower adoption of broadband internet. It is our sincere hope that the FCC will consider the needs of the elderly before taking actions that will impede the progress of our community.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bruce B. Yampolsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Yampolsky" clearly legible.

Bruce B. Yampolsky, President
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